

REMARKS/ARGUMENT

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being clearly anticipated by either Hanafy (U.S. Patent No. 5,945,770), Smith (U.S. Patent No. 5,548,564), Smith (U.S. Patent No. 5,744,898), Smith (U.S. Patent No. 5,329,496), Lindemann, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,066,911) and Obara, et al. (JP 57-193199).

Applicants gratefully appreciate the telephone interviews granted to Applicants' undersigned attorney on May 14, 2002 and June 6, 2002.

In the first telephone interview, Examiner Dougherty was very helpful in suggesting that more specific language specifying the directions in the claim in terms of the x, y and z directions would be helpful in understanding the differences over the references.

A draft of claim 1, as amended herein, was faxed to Examiner Dougherty who, on June 6, 2002, indicated that, in his opinion, the amended claim distinguished over the references. However, Examiner Dougherty indicated that he could not state at this time whether further consideration might have to be given to claim 1, as amended.

It is Applicants position that no further consideration should be necessary since claim 1, as amended, merely restates the parallel and transverse positions previously recited in the claims in terms of x, y and z directions.

In view of the foregoing, this application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on June 11, 2002:

Martin Pfeffer

Name of applicant, assignee or
Registered Representative

Signature
June 11, 2002

Date of Signature

MP:jj

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX A
"CLEAN" VERSION OF EACH PARAGRAPH/SECTION/CLAIM
37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(ii) AND (c)(i)

CLAIMS (with indication of amended or new):

AMENDED

1. A sensor array comprising:

a substrate; and

a plurality of piezoelectric oscillators fixed on a main surface of the substrate in a matrix form, the main surface of the substrate extending in a plane defined by transverse x and y directions, each of the piezoelectric oscillators comprising:

a plurality of piezoelectric layers which extend in a z-direction transverse to the plane defined by the x and y directions and which are laminated in the x or y direction of the main surface of the substrate;

inner electrodes disposed between the plurality of piezoelectric layers; and

outer electrodes formed on end faces of the plurality of piezoelectric layers.

APPENDIX B
VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE
37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(iii) AND (c)(ii)

CLAIMS:

1. A sensor array comprising:
 - a substrate; and
 - a plurality of piezoelectric oscillators fixed on a main surface of the substrate in a matrix form, the main surface of the substrate extending in a plane defined by transverse x and y directions, each of the piezoelectric oscillators comprising:
 - a plurality of piezoelectric layers which extend in a z-direction transverse to the plane defined by the x and y directions and which are laminated in [a] the x or y direction [parallel to] of the main surface of the substrate;
 - inner electrodes disposed between the plurality of piezoelectric layers; and
 - outer electrodes formed on end faces of the plurality of piezoelectric layers.